

**Security Council**

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Statement by the President of the Security Council

At the 5318th meeting of the Security Council, held on 9 December 2005, in connection with the Council's consideration of the item entitled "The situation in Côte d'Ivoire", the President of the Security Council made the following statement on behalf of the Council:

"The Security Council welcomes the appointment of Mr. Charles Konan Banny as Prime Minister of Côte d'Ivoire, and expresses its full support for him. It also commends the continued and decisive efforts of Presidents Olusegun Obasanjo, Thabo Mbeki and Mamadou Tandja, and reiterates its full support for them.

"The Security Council endorses the final communiqué of the International Working Group (IWG) of 6 December 2005. It recalls the IWG's previous final communiqué of 8 November which stated in particular that the fundamental basis of the peace and national reconciliation process is enshrined in resolution 1633 (2005) and that the IWG will provide all necessary support to the new Prime Minister and the Government that he will establish. The Council also reaffirms its support for the decision of the African Union Peace and Security Council, which stresses that the Ministers shall be accountable to the Prime Minister who shall have full authority over his Cabinet.

"The Security Council recalls and reaffirms that the Prime Minister must have all the necessary powers and resources described in resolution 1633, and stresses the importance of the full implementation of this resolution by the Ivorian parties under the monitoring of the IWG. Therefore, the Security Council urges the establishment without delay of the Government so that the Prime Minister can implement as soon as possible the road map defined by the IWG, and requests the Mediation Group and the IWG to monitor this matter closely.

"The Security Council reiterates its full support for the Special Representative of the Secretary-General and the High Representative for the elections."

